



# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 1, 2019**

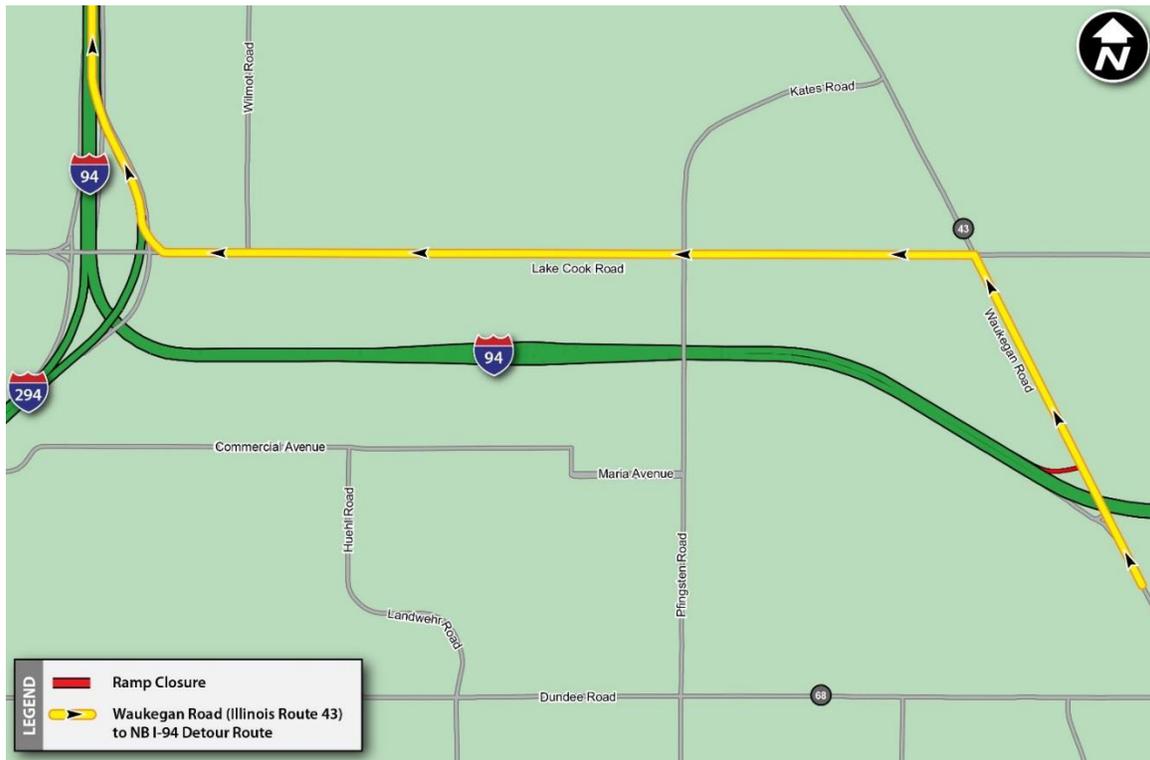
**RAMP CLOSURE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK AT THE WAUKEGAN ROAD INTERCHANGE AS PART OF THE EDENS SPUR TOLLWAY (I-94) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**  
*Closure with detour scheduled through August on ramp connecting southbound Waukegan Road to westbound I-94 for repair work*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – A month-long closure of the ramp carrying southbound Waukegan Road traffic to westbound Edens Spur Tollway (I-94) is scheduled to begin next week at the Waukegan Road Interchange for ramp reconstruction.

Electronic message signs and construction signage are in place in advance to alert drivers.

“The Illinois Tollway understands safety is just as important as access for drivers who use the Tollway to reach work and home, and we thank them for their patience,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “Closing this ramp allows us to safely complete this work in less time and minimize the inconvenience to customers.”

Weather permitting, overnight Monday, August 5 into Tuesday, August 6, the ramp connecting southbound Waukegan Road to westbound I-94 is scheduled to close to traffic. A detour will be posted directing traffic to use the Lake Cook Road Interchange on I-94. Traffic is scheduled to remain in this configuration through the end of August.



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The work is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County and the Village of Northbrook, as well as local fire and police departments.

Reconstruction of the ramp carrying traffic from southbound Waukegan Road to westbound I-94 is part of improvements to the Edens Spur. Four additional overnight closures will be needed in September to complete the improvements at this ramp.

The Edens Spur Improvement Project is removing and replacing all existing mainline asphalt pavement and replacing or repairing mainline bridges. Additional work includes replacing the Pfingsten Road Bridge, repairing the Waukegan Road Bridge over the Edens Spur, constructing the barrier separated median with stormwater improvements and upgrading ITS and roadway lighting. All work is scheduled to be complete in 2020.

Originally constructed in 1958, the Edens Spur consists of two lanes in each direction with 4-foot wide inside shoulders and 11-foot wide outside shoulders and an open grass median. Up to 57,000 vehicles use the Edens Spur daily.

These repairs are necessary to extend the life of the roadway and provide safe and convenient travel for Tollway customers. This work is part of the Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*.

Maps and construction about the Edens Spur Tollway repairs are available on the Tollway's website at [Illinoistollway.com](http://Illinoistollway.com) via the Interactive Tollway Map and under "Projects Overview" in the Explore Projects section.

### **Work Zone Safety**

Construction work zone speed limits are in effect in all construction zones 24/7. On I-94, a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in effect throughout the construction season.

The Illinois Tollway reminds motorists that the "Move Over Law" requires motorists to change lanes or to slow down and proceed with caution when passing any vehicle on the side of the road with hazard lights activated. If you see flashing lights ahead, please move over or slow down.

Illinois State Police have zero tolerance for drivers speeding in work zones or failure to comply with the Move Over Law.

The minimum penalty for speeding in a work zone is \$250. Posted signs advise drivers of a \$10,000 fine and a 14-year jail sentence for hitting a roadway worker.

Penalties for failure to slow down or move over for a vehicle on the shoulder with flashing lights includes up to a \$10,000 fine, 2-year suspension of driving privileges and jail time, in extreme cases.

### **About Move Illinois**

The Illinois Tollway's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program, *Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future*, is improving mobility, relieving congestion, reducing pollution, creating as many as 120,000 jobs and linking economies throughout the region. The first seven years of *Move Illinois* is on schedule and within budget, delivering the rebuilt and widened Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art 21<sup>st</sup> century corridor and opening a new interchange connecting the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) to I-57. Progress continues on projects addressing the remaining needs of the existing Tollway system, delivering the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project and planning for emerging projects, including reconstruction of the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294).

**About the Illinois Tollway**

The Illinois Tollway is a user-fee system that receives no state or federal funds for maintenance and operations. The agency maintains and operates 294 miles of roadways in 12 counties in Northern Illinois, including the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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